

Summary of Meeting

Attendance

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Nikki DeMarce, Associated Industries	<input type="checkbox"/>	Dick Mettler, NW Wall & Ceiling Contr Assoc
<input type="checkbox"/>	DeAnne Edwards, Pederson Fryer Farms	<input type="checkbox"/>	Rob Sumner, Timber Operator's Council
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Steve George, Hop Growers of WA	<input type="checkbox"/>	Gene Vosberg, Washington Restaurant Assoc
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Joe Hawkins, Bekins Northwest	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Tom Kwieciak, Bldg Industry Assoc of WA

☐ = Present

(Meeting could not be called to order as committee bylaws require a minimum of 6 voting members to constitute a quorum; therefore, no official business was conducted. Speakers made informal presentations to members and guests in attendance. Following summary is provided for informational purposes only.)

Introductions / Minutes – Although an informational meeting was held, the committee did not convene on October 14, 1997 as had been scheduled, due to the lack of a quorum. A summary of the information informally presented on 10/14/97 was distributed in lieu of minutes. The minutes of 06/10/97 will be presented to the committee for approval at the February 10, 1998 meeting.

Voc Policy Project – Mary Kaempfe (360-902-6693) presented a review of the committee's progress to date. They will be presented a report to the Workers' Comp Advisory Committee on December 12, where they will be recommending problem statements, and future goals for the committee. She discussed the proposed problem statements and the plans for phase 2 and 3 of the project. (*see handout*)

Claims Technology Enhancements Project – Catherine McDonald (360-902-6663) reviewed the "evolution of claims" recommendations that she had previously presented to the RAC, and gave a brief overview of the project status since adapting to the budget approved by the last legislature. (*see handout*)

Financial Status – Mark Mercier (360-902-5016) presented a review of the State Fund financial status. (*see handout*)

Group Qualifications/Homogeneity – Bill White and Kathy Willis discussed various proposals regarding retro group qualifications and homogeneity issues. Frank Romero (360-902-4835) also presented a draft proposal which would create several "categories" of risk for homogeneity purposes. Much further discussion is planned on these topics. (*see handout*)

Legislative Update – Legislative Liaison Suzanne Mager (360-902-4208) presented information on the upcoming legislative session, and briefly described the agency-request legislation, including a bill which would extend the one-year time limit on claimant fraud to 3 years, and expansion of external access, among others.

Department Priorities – Agency Director Gary Moore (360-902-4213) and Assistant Director for Insurance Services Doug Connell (360-902-4209) discussed Agency Priorities. Performance measures for claims staff will be presented to union/management for approval shortly. "In-training" positions are being proposed to help reduce the turn-over rate of claim managers who leave to take promotions. The department is

reviewing and rewriting regulations and rules in “plain language,” and will be submitting a progress report on regulatory reform to the governor shortly. In the next few months a customer satisfaction survey will be conducted by an outside polling firm.

Good and Welfare – A Certificate of Appreciation was presented to *Joe Hawkins* (Bekins Northwest) for his years of service on the retro advisory committee. His term will expire at the end of December, 1997. A special award was also presented to chief actuary *Bill White*, who is retiring at the end of the month.

Meeting concluded at 3:48 PM.